Attorney Docket Nav. 947763-5014

#10/4

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: OSTERMANN et al. Group Art Unit: Unassigned U.S. National Phase Application Examiner: Unassigned U.S. Application No.: To Be Assigned Date of National Stage Entry : March 24, 2000 Based on PUT/AU98/00813 Filed September 25, 1998 APPARATUS FOR REMOVING A For: SAMPLE FROM AN ARRAY OF SAMPLES AND A CUTTING TOOL FOR USE WITH THAT APPARATUS

ATTENTION: BOX PATENT APPLICATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the examination of the above-identified application on the merits, please amend the application, without prejudice, as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 3, line 1, change "Apparatus" to --The apparatus--

change "as claimed in claim 2" to -- of claim 2--;